

LITTLE YARNS ABOUT FILMS, STARS, PLAYS AND LIFE IN MOVIES

(BY JAMES W. DEAN)

NEW YORK, July 8.—Too much footage ruins many otherwise splendid photoplays. The excess is usually bunk, called atmosphere. This bunk costs the exhibitor extra money and consumes more time in projection. As a result the audience sees a less diversified program.

Some reviewers, this one among them, have been campaigning for months for the elimination of this excess footage in feature pictures.

Now Frank E. Wood, chief supervisor of the Lasky studio, says: "The day is past when an author and director feel it necessary to waste a reel or two at the start of a picture establishing such vague things as atmosphere and character environment. Our instructions are like those given the writer of popular fiction: 'Get your story going and keep it going.'"

Wood recites how the new order of things has been effected in these coming Paramount pictures.

Here's the way "On High Seas" starts: Stateroom on ocean liner. Young society girl, irritated. Maid has forgotten to switch on a slipper. In the hold rats leaving the ship, men pumping water to stay afloat. On deck passengers fleeing to lifeboats. The girl refuses to believe she is in danger. The ship goes down. She finds herself in a leaky rowboat with two stokers.

And in "The Young Rajah": Sitting room of old New England home. Stormy night. Farmer and his wife interrupted by two East Indians, who bring with them a dark-skinned boy whom they treat with deference. They lay great sums of money on the table and many jewels. "Will you take the boy and these?" they ask.

Opening scene of "The Ghost Breaker": New Yorker visits old Kentucky home. Arrives in time to dodge feudists' bullets. Flights way out. Followed to New York by man who has sworn to kill him. They meet in hotel elevator. New Yorker shoots first. Escapes into first room he finds. Spanish princess in bed. She



NOW 4:45 P. M.

RICHARD DIX

AND

Helene Chadwick

In Mary Roberts Rinehart's Famous Story

"The Glorious Fool"

Another Big 100 Per Cent Special. Also Big First Run Comedy.

UTAH THEATRE

Dr. Charles Peart and Miss Lillian Thatcher at the Organ.

saves him from police. He agrees to go to Spain with her to fight ghosts that fill her ancestral castle.

Those three photoplays promise to contain the one element that all good photoplays contain, action. When the action of a feature film moves with such rapidity it generally can be told in five reels.

That allows the exhibitor to build a balanced program. The new reels, the comedy and such short subjects as the Bruce and Post scenes, Pathe Review, Urban Movie Chat, Prizma color pictures and sport reviews have become an essential feature of the theatre program. Long features do not permit their showing.

George Bernard Shaw announces that an American company has offered him \$100,000 a year for five years for the privilege of filming two of his stories a year.

Shaw is one of the few great authors who have refused to have their stories filmed. Many who once frowned upon the movies condescended to the filming of their stories when the price offered could not be resisted. Shaw's price may be \$100,000 a year.

REELGRAPHS.
A course in "Motion Pictures and Education" is being given at the summer session of the University of Tennessee.

A dog will again be the central figure in a Robert C. Bruce picture. This film will be called "Jenkins and the Mutt."

Jackie Coogan's next picture will be directed by E. Mason Hopper.

June Elvidge is to play an important part in "The Impossible Mrs. Belieu."

Arthur Rankin, who plays in "To Have and to Hold," is a brother of the Rankin, who is Mrs. Lionel Barrymore off-stage.

When the director hunts Milton Sills he usually can find him back of the screens reading a seed catalog or floricultural paper.

Ernest Lubitsch will not produce any more of the historical films of great mass action which made him famous, according to Milton Bronner, who writes for London.

"Films featured by great numbers of extras were a novelty when I first made them," Lubitsch told Bronner. "Now everybody is making them and the public is weary of them. My next pictures will have small casts and will not be historical."

When Lubitsch was in America he told me he believed American films to be superior to others in technique of photography and in attention to detail. He tells Bronner he believes European films excel those of America in the grouping of actors before the camera.

His own pictures uphold that contention.

Now that Lubitsch is devoting himself to pictures with smaller casts and applying the American idea of attention to decorative detail, his next films should prove to be masterpieces of pictorial composition.

Lubitsch is making some films especially for American exhibition.

"I shall not attempt to do a story of American life; I am not so silly," Lubitsch told Bronner. "I am a German and understand German ways and German life. I take an American to understand America. If I attempted to produce an American story I probably should bungle it."

There are a thousand little differences in the everyday life of two peoples. They differ in the way they enter a room, shake hands, bow to the ladies, eat and drink and so forth.

"The best thing I can do for America is to produce some story whose moral, passion, tragedy or festivity is so universal that Americans will ap-

COZY

Today, Tomorrow and Tuesday

WILLIAM DUNCAN

in

"THE SILENT VOW"

LEE MORAN

in

"THREE WEEKS OFF"

Latest News and

"White Eagle"

Coming Wednesday

CORINNE GRIFFITH

in

"RECEIVED PAYMENT"

NEAL HART

in

"SQUARIN' IT"

Friday

HERBERT RAWLINSON

in

"THE BLACK BAG"

Lyceum

Today Double Feature Program

HOOT GIBSON

in

"STEP ON IT"

and

GLADYS WALTON

in

"HIGH HEELS"

Monday

"WHAT'S WORTH WHILE"

Tuesday

"A DAUGHTER OF THE LAW"

Wednesday

Paramount Special

"DECEPTION"

Thursday

VIVIAN MARTIN

in

"SONG OF THE SOUL"

Friday

"THE PREY"

preciate it in the same way as Germans."

Lubitsch thus has given insight into the two virtues that make him a great director, his readiness to change from a type of picture that has brought him fame and his discernment of his own limitations due to difference in national customs.

The fault of many American directors is that having once produced a meritorious picture they fashion all subsequent pictures from the same pattern.

The fault of many European directors is that they have been too deeply impressed with their own reactions to their work. Having no sense of humor they do not strive to appeal to those who do have a sense of humor.

Thus the serious tragedy of their films is laid on so thick that it presents a ludicrous surface to the American who would rather see the comic side of life than the tragic.

The complete cast and technical crew will be taken to the island of Tahiti by H. A. Vish, director of "Captain Blackbird." The outfit will sail from San Francisco July 7 with full lighting and development equipment. The story is an original photodrama of the South Sea written by Carey Wilson. With the picture photographed in the actual locale of the action there will be no criticism of the "atmosphere."

CINEMAGRAMS
Myrtle Stedman will be seen in "The Dangerous Age."

The Tudor rose was embroidered on every costume worn in the Henry VIII court scene of "When Knighthood Was in Flower."

Sidney Dean has been added to the cast of "Missing Millions" starring Alice Brady.

William DeMille has started the filming of "Clarence," by Booth Tarkington. The cast includes Wallace Reid, Agnes Ayres, Theodore Roberts, May McAvoy and Kathryn Williams.

George O'Brien, son of the San Francisco police chief, appears as a Royal Northwest Mounted policeman in a picture with Betty Compson and as a traffic cop in "Manslaughter." Maybe heredity counts, after all.

ALHAMBRA

THE COOLEST PLACE IN UTAH

ONLY THREE DAYS

TODAY

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY

A BIG PICTURE OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS
COME IN AND SEE IT AND FORGET THE HEAT

A Two-Star Bullseye!

Thundering hoofs and alkali, a beautiful girl and a fighting man—a sweeping drama of the Great Southwest.



JESSE L. LASKY PRESENTS

JACK HOLT

AND

BEBE DANIELS

IN

"North of the Rio Grande"

A Paramount Picture



Story by Vingie E. Roe

Directed by Joseph Henabery

Scenario by Will M. Riche

Extra Added Attraction

LARRY SEMON

in His Latest Comedy

"The Show"

It's a Scream. Don't Miss It.

PRICES

10c - 20c - 30c

Children All Seats 12 to 15 Adults All Seats

Shows Today: 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

COMING WEDNESDAY -- 4 DAYS

LIONEL BARRYMORE

The celebrated stage actor in

"BOOMERANG BILL"

A tale of the underworld of New York and a love that touched its shadows with glory.

Unfolding a big, heart-stirring romance of a fighting man who dared, for others, to fail.

If you want to see some real acting, see Lionel Barrymore play Boomerang Bill.

This is one of Paramount's big specials for this year. You won't want to miss it.



Regular Prices **10c - 20c - 30c**

Children Under 12 12 to 15 Adults All Seats

OGDEN THEATRE

Today, 4:45 p. m.



See the great horse race—the desperate airplane flight—the break-neck auto dash—the plot to frame the race—the youth in the clutches of an adventuress—the gun fight in the gambling palace—and other smashing episodes!



The blast of the bugle!
The shrieks of the throng!
The clang of the gong!
The snap of the barrier!
THEY'RE OFF!

RC